

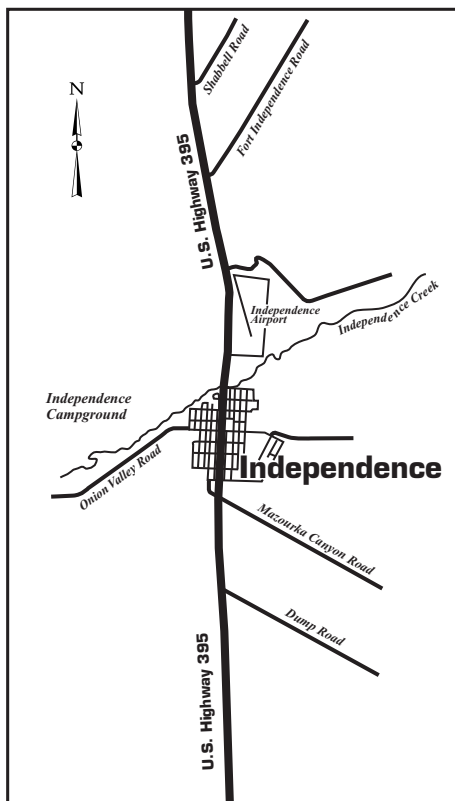


Public Notice



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration

Announcement of Public Hearing for the Independence U.S. Highway 395 Project



WHERE AND WHEN

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2003

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Place: American Legion Hall
205 South Edwards Street
Independence, CA 93526

WHAT'S AVAILABLE

The environmental document, maps and other project information are available for review at the Caltrans District 9 office located at 500 S. Main Street in Bishop, open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Copies of the document are also available at the Inyo County Libraries, located at 168 North Edwards, Independence, CA 93526; 110 North Main Street, Big Pine, CA 93513; and 210 Academy Street, Bishop, CA 93514. The environmental document can also be found on the web at:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist9/projmgmt/Inyo_projects/21480/drafteais.pdf

WHERE YOU COME IN

Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included? Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish to make a comment on the environmental document you may submit written comments until August 2, 2003 to Caltrans, Environmental Planning, Attention Juergen Vespermann, 2015 E. Shields Ave., Suite 100, Fresno, CA 93726 or by email at juergen_vespermann@dot.ca.gov. A Court Reporter will also be available at the public meeting to record your oral comments.

CONTACT

For more information concerning this project, please contact Bryan Winzenread, Project Manager at (760) 872-5250, or by email at bryan_winzenread@dot.ca.gov or Juergen Vespermann, Environmental Planner (559) 243-8171, or by email at juergen_vespermann@dot.ca.gov. For other State Highway matters please contact the District 9 Public Affairs Office at (760) 872-0603.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Individuals who require special accommodations (American Sign Language Interpreter, Accessible seating, documentation in alternative formats, etc.) are requested to contact Caltrans at (760) 872-0603 at least 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting date. Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922. For all other State Highway matters, please contact District 9 Public Affairs at (760) 872-0603.

WHAT'S BEING PLANNED

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing to improve State Highway 395 in and near the town of Independence from 2.7 miles south of Mazourka Canyon Road to 0.6 mile north of Shabbell Lane. The proposed project would increase capacity, improve safety and the flow of traffic, and provide route continuity.

WHY THIS AD

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show it will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. This notice is to inform you of the preparation of the Draft Initial Study/Environmental assessment and of its availability for you to review. Two alternatives were studied in detail. A preferred alternative will be chosen after the circulation of the environmental document. A public hearing will be held to give you an opportunity to talk about certain design features of the project with Caltrans staff before the final design is selected. No formal presentation will be made. Please drop by any time between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.